

Geneva, proves it to be a larger bird than the form from the Deserta Islands. This latter is, again, a larger and a more heavily built bird than the breeding bird on Madeira.

Pterodroma mollis mollis breeds on Tristan da Cunha in the Atlantic Ocean.

Pterodroma mollis deceptornis breeds on St. Paul's and New Amsterdam, in the Indian Ocean. These do not have the entire underparts white.

When we come to the northern hemisphere we find the representative races, three forms, all have the entire under-surface white.

Pterodroma mollis feæ breeds on the Cape Verde Islands, and is the largest of the subspecies. Wing 272-280; tail 110-115; culmen 27-30; tarsus 33-36; middle toe and claw 40-45 mm.

Pterodroma mollis deserta breeds on the Deserta Islands. Wing 260-267 (264); tail 110-117 (114); culmen 27-29 (28.2); tarsus 32-33 (32.6) mm. This connects *feæ* with *madeira*.

Pterodroma mollis madeira breeds on Madeira and is the smallest, and is more delicate in build than the above.

Wing 245-250 (247.5); tail 108-110 (109); culmen 25-26 (25.5); tarsus 29-30 (29.5) mm.

There is no overlapping of the wing-measurements in these birds, which breed north of the Line.

MR. NOËL MAYAUD sent the following description of a new subspecies of the Bluethroat :—

Luscinia svecica namnetum*, subsp. nov.

Description and Measurements.—Differs from *Luscinia svecica cyanecula* in its smaller size, especially shorter wing and tail :

| | Wing. | Tail. |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 29 ♂♂ (breeding) | 67-72 mm. | 45.8-54 mm. |
| 6 ♀♀ ,, | 64.5-68 mm. | 44.7-51.4 mm. |

* [The generic name of *Cyanosylvia* Brehm is also used for the Bluethroats, and is that given in the British Ornithologists' Union 'List of British Birds,' 1923.—ED.]

Most of these specimens were taken in April and May ; some are in worn plumage. Nevertheless the differences in size as compared with *cyanecula* are too great to be due to abrasion ; besides, we compared this material with true *cyanecula* taken in Germany from April, June, and July, which are also worn, and these measured :—

| | Wing. | Tail. |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| 5 ♂♂ | 73–76 mm. | 52·5–56 mm. |
| 3 ♀♀ | 75–76 mm. | 51–55·9 mm. |

L. s. cyanecula is also longer “ wing-tipped ”* than *namnetum*. From tip of longest secondaries to tip of longest primary 10–18 mm. in ♂♂ *cyanecula* * ; 9·5–12 mm. in ♂♂ *namnetum* ; 9–10 mm. in ♀♀ *namnetum*.

The white spot of the throat of the male is very conspicuous, and was found present in all (except one) of the males (nearly fifty) examined or seen in the field. The lores also appeared darker than in *cyanecula*.

Distribution.—West France, Loire-Inférieure, Vendée, Charente-Inférieure.

Type.—♂, Noirmoutier, Vendée, May 28, 1934, coll. Mayaud, no. 1811.

The VIIIth International Ornithological Congress will take place at Oxford from July 2 to July 7, 1934. The President is Dr. E. Stresemann and the Secretary the Rev. F. C. R. Jourdain. A number of names have already been sent in, and a large attendance is expected. There will be meetings of the International Ornithological Committee, and these and the ordinary sectional meetings of the Congress will be held in Rhodes House. Excursions have been arranged to Lilford Hall (Lord Lilford's Aviaries), to Foxwarren Park (Mr. Ezra's Aviaries), to the Zoological Society's park at Whipsnade, and to the islands off the coast of Pembrokeshire. There will also be receptions, and there will be a dinner at Christ Church Hall on Thursday, July 5.

* A Pract. Hand. of Brit. Birds, i. 1920, p. 478.